

**Amendments to the Claims:**

1-6 Cancelled.

7. (Previously presented) In a testing system for compression testing of concrete masonry units including first and second platens, the improvement comprising a pair of compression pads each comprising:

a rigid, rectangular foam board of a size to be received on one face of a concrete masonry unit; and

a plastic sheet laminated to the rigid foam board and being engageable by one of the test platens, in use, with the rigid foam board engaging the face of the concrete masonry unit to provide even load distribution during testing.

8. (Original) The compression pads of claim 7 wherein the rigid foam board comprises an expanded polystyrene (EPS) foam board.

9. (Original) The compression pads of claim 8 wherein the EPS foam board has a density greater than 2 lb/ft<sup>3</sup>.

10. (Original) The compression pads of claim 8 wherein the EPS foam board has a density of about 3 lb/ft<sup>3</sup>.

11. (Original) The compression pads of claim 7 wherein the foam board has a  
2 thickness of about 0.5 inches and the plastic sheet has a thickness of about 0.06 inches.

12. (Original) The compression pads of claim 7 wherein the plastic sheet is  
2 laminated to the rigid foam board with an adhesive.

13- 21 Cancelled.